

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: May 17, 2011
POSITION: Oppose
SPONSOR: National Family Justice Center Alliance

BILL NUMBER: SB 557
AUTHOR: C. Kehoe

BILL SUMMARY: Family Justice Centers

This bill would authorize specified cities and counties to establish pilot family justice centers to assist victims of violence, assault, and abuse.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The State and Consumer Services Agency indicates that the Office of Privacy Protection (OPP) would incur minor and absorbable costs as a result of the provisions of this bill. However we would note that the May Revision proposed the elimination of the OPP.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is opposed to this bill since it would impose additional duties on the OPP which is proposed for elimination as part of the May Revision.

Existing law provides for various services and programs to assist victims of crime, including grants to proposed and existing child sexual exploitation and child abuse victim counseling centers and prevention programs, and the establishment of a resource center to operate a statewide, toll-free information service consisting of legal information for crime victims and providers of services to crime victims.

This bill would authorize the cities of San Diego and Anaheim, and the counties of Alameda and Sonoma, to establish family justice centers to assist victims of violence, assault, and abuse and would allow for the family justice centers to be staffed by law enforcement, medical, social service, and child welfare personnel, among others. This bill would require the OPP, the four pilot centers, and the National Family Justice Center Alliance to develop best practices to ensure the privacy of all clients and would require these entities to report recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2013.

This bill would also:

- Prohibit victims of crime from being denied services at a family justice center solely based on the grounds of criminal history and would prohibit a criminal history search from being conducted during the client intake process.
- Require each family justice center to develop policies and procedures to ensure coordinated services are provided and to enhance safety.
- Require each family justice center to maintain an informed consent policy and to be in compliance with confidentiality requirements.
- Require each family justice center to maintain a formal training program, as specified.
- Sunset on January 1, 2014.

Analyst/Principal (0212)	Date	Assistant Program Budget Manager	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS	Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)
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BILL ANALYSIS/ENROLLED BILL REPORT--(CONTINUED)**Form DF-43****AUTHOR****AMENDMENT DATE****BILL NUMBER**

C. Kehoe

May 17, 2011

SB 557

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP							Fund
	RV	98	FC	2010-2011	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	Code
9990/Var Depts	SO	No	----- No/Minor Fiscal Impact -----						0001
0510/Secty SCS	SO	No	----- See Fiscal Summary -----						0001